



**PATENT**

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**IN RE APPLICATION OF:**

**EDWARD S. ELLIS, ET AL.**

**EXAMINER: J. JOHNSON**

**SERIAL No.: 09/553,107**

**GROUP ART UNIT: 1764**

**DATE FILED: APRIL 20, 2000**

**ATTY. DOCKET No.: GJH-0018**

**TITLE: PRODUCTION OF LOW SULFUR  
DISTILLATES**

**RECEIVED**  
**FEB 10 2003**  
**TC 1700 MAIL ROOM**

**HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This is in Response to the First Office Action after RCE (Paper No. 12) dated November 7, 2002. Please enter the following remarks.

**REMARKS**

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)/103(a)**

Claims 1-7, 9-16 and 18-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over United States Patent Number 5,292,428, Harrison et al. ("Harrison")

**EXAMINER'S POSITION**

It is the Examiner's position that Harrison teaches a process wherein hydrocarbon feedstock is passed through two or more hydrodesulfurization zones and connected in a series each zone containing a packed bed of solid catalyst wherein the liquid is passed from a first zone to the next until the final zone. The Examiner further mentions: make-up